Duke Street Traffic Mitigation

College Clover Park Civic Association Meeting
October 21, 2021

What's Happening Now?

Proposed short term traffic pilots to move traffic on Duke Street and reduce cut-through traffic on neighborhood streets

Test scenarios to see what happens to traffic when we make changes and monitor behavior and response to changes

Why Now?

Community feedback from Alexandria Mobility Plan and Duke Street in Motion input processes

Longer term projects exist but take time

Availability of data platform to more easily analyze what happens when we make changes

Because the community asked for action – and we've been talking about this for 10+ years!

What's Happening Later?

Duke Street Bus Rapid Transit

Smart Mobility – Adaptative Traffic Signals Project

Duke Street Access Ramp to Telegraph Road

What's the Plan?

Pilot 1 – January through March 2022

- 4pm to 7pm – PM Peak period
- Increase signal timing for traffic on Quaker Lane and along Duke Street to get onto Telegraph Road
- Decrease signal timing on side streets to make cutting through the neighborhood a less attractive (and less fast) option

Pilot 2 – August 2022 through January 2022

- If Pilot 1 is a success, reinstall AND
- Prohibit direct access to Telegraph Road from West Taylor Run Parkway

Goal – Keep cut-through traffic on the arterials and off neighborhood residential streets

What does this mean?

In the first few weeks, more vehicles could queue on neighborhood streets until they realize those routes are not faster

If you live in the neighborhood and want to access Duke Street before 4pm and 7pm, it could take you longer

More traffic might cut through Alexandria from 395 if it is the fastest route to Telegraph Road and Fairfax County

Ultimately, less traffic might cut-through neighborhood streets

How will you measure success?

Travel Times:

- Decrease travel times on arterial routes and increase travel times on neighborhood streets

Origin-Destination:

- Decrease percent of vehicles turning left onto Janney's Lane and using neighborhood streets to access Telegraph Road (i.e. from 50% to 30%).

Volume:

- Increase volume of traffic on Quaker Lane and decrease traffic on neighborhood streets

Pilot 1 Timeline

- Fall 2021: Targeted community outreach, Board and Commission briefings
- December 2021 – Broad community & Regional outreach and notification
- January – March 2022: Signal timing changes go into effect
- January – February: Staff monitoring and tweaking signals as needed
- March: Staffing using data to make additional tweaks
- March 30, 2022: Signal timing goes back to previous conditions
- May: data processing and evaluation*
- June: Report on findings

*Data lags 6 weeks

Pilot 2 Timeline

- Winter 2022: Community engagement on intersection design & criteria for success
- Spring 2022: Board & Commission input and public hearings
- April/May 2022 Traffic and Parking Board consideration of pilot
- June/July 2022: City Council consideration of pilot
- August 2022 through January 2023: If approved, implement Pilot
- February through March 2023 – data processing and evaluation*
- April 2023: Report on findings & develop proposed path forward

*Data lags 6 weeks

Our Promise

Transparency

- Frequent communication
- Website and social media updates
- Project email updates

A pilot is a PILOT only

- Clear start and end dates
- Clear data driven criteria and measures for success

Timely actions and response

- Report on data findings within a month after all data is available

What are we asking from the Civic Association Leadership ?

Input & agreement on BEFORE data period

Input & agreement on criteria for success

Input & agreement on measures of success

What are we asking from the community?

- Patience during initial days
- Open minds & constructive conversations
- Input through feedback portal
- Feedback (during and after pilot)
- Trust

Additional Neighborhood Safety Recommendations

To be considered at November 22 Traffic and Parking Board meeting if supported

Cambridge Parking

CONCEPT for discussion

Yale Drive Left Turns

CONCEPT for discussion

Thank You!

Questions?